

Sunburst

Vol. 48 No. 33

Serving the Holloman Air Force Base, N.M. community

Friday, Aug. 19, 2005



Briefly

Dire rates

Not all loans are created equal. Always read the fine print before you sign a contract.

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Holloman Hero

This week's Holloman Hero is Airman 1st Class Mehtar Sullivan, 49th Civil Engineer Readiness Flight.

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The Martians are here!

The Air Force is counting on them to keep the stealth fighter from being detected by enemy radar.

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Col. Holloman's UAVs



The installation's namesake, Col. George V. Holloman, made his mark on aviation history by pioneering unmanned aerial vehicles.

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Photo by Mr. Ellis Neel, Alamogordo Daily News

Behind cover

Tech. Sgt. Glen Kuhn, 49th Security Forces Squadron, gets into a covered position during a simulated hostage situation exercise Aug. 11 in Holloman's base housing area. The exercise was used to test the base's response to hostile individuals who breach Holloman's main gate.

HAFB family services programs rate high in no-notice inspection

by Tech. Sgt. Ray Bowden
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Department of Defense utilizes an annual, no-notice inspection to ensure its family services programs perform in accordance with applicable regulations.

All military installations with active family member services programs are susceptible to this week-long inspection.

"These inspections are very impor-

tant because they validate the family member programs we have in place and how well we're doing our jobs," said Lt. Col. Christopher Toste, 49th Mission Support Group deputy commander.

Last week, Ms. Sue Misener, 49th Services Squadron family members' programs flight chief, received a phone call from the team of inspectors saying, "We're here."

In this particular instance, the inspectors arrived at the Holloman

Child Development Center on the morning of Aug. 8 and stayed until the afternoon of Aug. 12, inspecting every facet of Team Holloman's family member programs.

"The inspectors make a thorough sweep of every family member program facility and inspect over 100 different items: everything from paperwork to how the staff members perform in accordance

See inspection on page 11

High interest loans don't pay!

by Senior Airman Amy Robinson
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

The Airman had \$600 left until payday, until her car broke down. Then she had a \$1,000 repair bill.

Two "friends" offered to help her out. The first offered an interest-free loan of \$500. The second offered a \$500 loan for a \$75 fee, and said if the Airman couldn't pay the money back in two weeks, additional fees would be charged.

So who would you borrow from – the Air Force Aid Society or your local payday lender?

The answer might seem obvious, but Airmen still use payday loans to get by in tight financial situations when they could be getting help from the Air Force.

When (Airmen) find themselves in a situation where they feel like there's no other option, they make the decision to use a payday loan, said Gayle Brinkley, community readiness policy analyst for the Air Combat Command Directorate of Personnel Family Matters Branch.

Yet, for others, the use of these high interest loans is attractive because of a fear of repercussions from their supervisors.

"I was an Airman, and I didn't want to get in trouble," said Staff Sgt. Darnell Cox, a munitions journeyman with Langley's 1st Equipment Maintenance Squadron. Sergeant Cox said he knew he wasn't necessarily being financially responsible, but didn't want others to know his business.

Sergeant Cox was soon on his way to the first of more than 40 payday loans over the next two years.

Although the Airman paid his loans on time, he said he regrets using them because of the high fees or interest rates, which can range from 391 percent to 1,300 percent annually.

"In the course of a year, I wasted \$1,800 in fees alone," said Sergeant Cox.

These loans are designed to keep you coming back, the sergeant said.

Ms. Brinkley explained that, like Sergeant Cox, many Airmen may plan to pay off

the loan with their next paycheck; however, other expenses often arise. This becomes a cycle until all of a sudden it's out of control.

Susie Markel, Langley Family Support Center community readiness consultant, recalls an NCO who came to the FSC with 10 outstanding payday loans.

"He was paying \$565 every two weeks just to keep them off his back, and ended up filing for bankruptcy," she said.

She explained that not only can out-of-control payday loans damage credit; they can also damage Air Force careers. Financial irresponsibility can cost a member anything from a letter of counseling, to an Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice action, or in severe cases, a discharge from the Air Force.

After about a year's worth of payday loans, the then-Airman Cox decided to get help from Langley's FSC. There, he qualified for an interest-free AFAS loan that helped him cover living expenses such as mortgage payments, rent, car repairs and utilities while he repaid the payday loans. The center even helped him develop a budget.

But, like Sergeant Cox, many service members fear if they borrow money from Air Force Aid Society, it will get back to the first sergeant or commander and that's not necessarily true, said Ms. Markel.

Although there may be times when circumstances require the FSC to inform the first sergeant or commander, AFAS loans are handled on a case-by-case basis, and the center encourages Airmen to seek assistance if they need it.

Although he's on solid financial ground now, Sergeant Cox said looking back, he wishes he would've asked for help sooner. By getting help, he would've actually had one less thing to worry about.

If I didn't get help, I'd be in a worse situation than I was," Sergeant Cox said.

Whether people get help from the FSC or a financial institution that offers a low interest consolidation loan, there are alternatives to payday loans.

"There's always a better way," he said.

Holloman
Hotline

572-7500

The Holloman Hotline is your direct link to the 49th Fighter Wing commander.

If you've tried to solve the problem yourself and haven't been able to get results, call 572-7500 or e-mail cc.hotline@holloman.af.mil. Before submitting a Hotline, please give the appropriate agencies a chance to work out the problem.

Housing office	2-3981
Housing maintenance	2-7901
Medical clinic	2-5991
Finance	2-5107
Services	2-3528
Commissary	2-5127
Fraud, waste and abuse	2-3713
SARC.....	2-6789
BX	479-6164



High: 90
Low: 64

TODAY



High: 90
Low: 66

SATURDAY



High: 92
Low: 66

SUNDAY



High: 92
Low: 66

MONDAY

Weather forecast provided by the
49th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

DUI Update

Days since last DUI	10
DUIs this year	15
This week last year	28

Last six DUIs

• 49 CES	Feb. 22
• GAF	March 7
• 49 CES	April 17
• 49 OSS	May 6
• 49 MMSS	May 27
• 49 AMXS	Aug. 9

572-RIDE works!
Calls made are lives saved

777 Saves this year
16 Saves this week



Brig. Gen. Kurt Cichowski.....	49th Fighter Wing commander
Maj. John Bryan.....	Public Affairs director
Capt. Vincent King.....	Public Affairs deputy director
2nd Lt. Shantece Wade.....	Internal information chief
Tech. Sgt. Ray Bowden.....	Editor
Spc. (Ret.) James Matise.....	Staff writer
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BRIEFS

Independent Entrepreneurs

The Holloman Enlisted Spouse's Organization will be hosting a bazaar, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 29 at the Community Center. This event gives base independent entrepreneurs a chance to recruit and sell their products. For example, Mary Kay, Avon, Pampered Chef, etc. Vendor Registration is \$25 per table until Oct. 1 and late registration is \$30 per table until Oct. 22. Please call Michelle at 921-0701 or Sue at 479-9959 for reservations.

Finance Office

The Finance Office will be closed Thursday for renovations. Regular hours will resume Aug. 26. For emergencies, please call 572-3548 or 572-3549.

Commander's Access Channel

"Holloman base housing privatization" – 10 a.m., 4 p.m., 9 p.m.

"Welcome to Holloman" – 8 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m.

Announcements – shown during other hours between recordings.

For information about the CAC, call 572-5406.

American Society of Military Comptrollers

The Holloman AFB Desert Sands Chapter of the ASMC will have their next meeting at 12 p.m., Tuesday at the Officer's Club Committee of 50 room. Dues are \$26 per year and includes a quarterly magazine. ASMC is a professional organization made up of all elements of resource and financial management agencies within the Department of Defense. For more information, contact 2nd Lt. Charnelle Joiner at 572-7017.

Town hall meeting

The 49th Mission Support Group is hosting a town hall meeting at 6 p.m., Sept. 7 at the Base Theater to address base community concerns. If there are any questions or concerns contact the 49th MSG at 572-5541.

Commando reunion

The Air Commando Association/Special Operations Veter-

ans, from WWII to the present, annual reunion will be held Oct. 7-9 at Fort Walton Beach, Fla. For more information call (850)581-0099, fax 850-581-8988, e-mail aircomando@aol.com or visit the Web page at www.home.earthlink.net/~aircommando1/.

Tobacco Cessation

The tobacco cessation program runs at 11 a.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Thursdays. Nicotine replacement products are available. Registration is required, please call 572-5785.

Airman's Attic

Airman's Attic is currently looking for volunteers. The current hours of operation are Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, please call 572-2577.

SGLI increase

Beginning Sept. 1, the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance maximum coverage will increase to \$400,000. Everyone's insurance will be automatically increased to this level of coverage. Anyone who does not wish to be covered for the full amount must fill out SGLV Form 8286 and give to the MPF Customer Service Section.

You can reduce your coverage by increments of \$50,000. If you complete the form and turn it in between Sept. 1 and Sept. 30, you will not be charged the full amount for September, but will be charged for whatever coverage you elect at the rate of \$3.50 per \$50,000 insured. Any changes made after Sept. 30 will cause you to be charged the full amount for whatever months you were covered.

If you do not wish to reduce your coverage and you are not making any changes to beneficiaries then you will not need to fill out any forms. Also, if you elect to designate a primary beneficiary other than your spouse, a formal letter will go to the spouse letting them know that they are not the primary beneficiary.

ACC command chief gets first-hand look at HAFB

by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Air Combat Command command chief toured Holloman Thursday to get a better perspective of the 49th Fighter Wing and to better understand the unit’s morale and welfare.

Chief Master Sgt. David Popp visited with newly-assigned Airmen at the Airman Professional Enhancement Center where he discussed the 49th Fighter Wing’s ongoing mission of supporting the F-117A Nighthawk.

“The stealth fighter plays a vital part of ACC’s joint mission mentality,” Chief Popp said. “This aircraft must be ready to deploy at a moment’s notice and from what I can see, the men and women of the 49th are ready to make that happen.”

The chief added that while members are deployed to locations around the world, those

left behind must remember to be good wingmen.

“The worst thing that any of us could experience is the death of a fellow Airman,” he said. “The Air Force must support Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, and that means Air Combat Command is deploying overseas to do that. We have to remember the Airmen at home as well as those picking up the mission and doing double duty. We have to look after one another, and that just doesn’t stop at first-line supervisors. We all play a part in ensuring the welfare of all Airmen.”

Before departing the APDC, Chief Popp had some final thoughts for the Airmen.

“The Fightin’ 49ers have always had a history of stepping up and supporting our nation in times of war,” he said. “We have to remember that we are an Air Force that needs to remain expeditionary at all times. This just doesn’t apply to the servicemember – this also goes for the families as well.”

The chief’s visit also took him to other parts of Holloman, including the Mayo Airman Leadership School, Heritage Center and Whispering Sands Community Center.

The chief was expected to speak with members of the 49th Maintenance Group, 49th Materiel Maintenance Group and Physiological Training Center later today.

Chief Master Sgt. Bruce Barton, 49th Fighter Wing command chief, said the visit from ACC encourages Airmen to be ready for deployment.

Chief Popp enlisted in the Air Force in July 1979 as an aerospace ground equipment mechanic. He served in a variety of aircraft maintenance assignments before taking ACC’s highest enlisted position.

As ACC’s command chief, Chief Popp is the sole enlisted liaison between Gen. Ronald E. Keys, ACC commander, and the more than 84,000 ACC enlisted personnel stationed around the world.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Russell Scalf

Chief Master Sgt. Dave Popp, ACC command chief master sergeant and Chief Master Sgt. Dale Burton, 49th Fighter Wing command chief, greet Airmen in front of the Professional Development Center Thursday.



The 49th Security Forces Squadron handled the following incidents from Aug. 9 to Monday.

Property loss, damage or theft

- Aug. 9: An NCO reported

a fire extinguisher was stolen from building 457. It was found the next day and no criminal activity was suspected.

- Aug. 10: An AAFES employee reported she had detained two dependents for shoplifting video game equip-

ment at the Base Exchange.

- Aug. 11: An Airman reported a personal property theft at building 334. Items taken were a Pierre Cardin jacket, a suede jacket, a Sony Palm Pilot, a diamond bracelet and a gold watch. Estimated loss was \$4,400.

- Aug. 15: An Airman reported two windows were broken at a residence on Catron Loop.

Patrol response:

- Aug. 9: A government civilian reported a minor vehicle accident without injuries involving two personally-owned vehicles at the RV storage lot.

- Aug. 9: An Airman re-

ported a minor vehicle accident without injuries involving two POVs in front of the McDonald's parking lot.

- Aug. 10: A government civilian reported a minor vehicle accident involving two government vehicles in the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office parking lot.

- Aug. 10: An NCO reported an Airman and an NCO had been injured while performing duties at building 578. The injured personnel were treated on site.

- Aug. 11: An NCO reported an Airman reported late for duty and showed up intoxicated. The Airman was transported to Alamogordo Department of Public Safety for in-

toxication testing, yielding a blood alcohol level of .04.

- Aug. 11: An NCO reported an Airman was suffering a possible allergic reaction to medicine at dormitory 517. The Airman was transported to Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center for treatment.

- Aug. 14: An NCO reported a stray dog on Curry Circle. The animal was taken into custody and released to its owner.

- Aug. 15: An AAFES employee reported an NCO had fainted while waiting at a cash register at the Base Exchange. The NCO was transported to Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center for further treatment.

AF pioneers of the 50s

Across

1. Prosciutto source
4. Female fried
7. Hawaiian acacia with flowers
10. Ellipse
12. Benefactor
14. In falconry, short strap fastened around the leg of a hawk
15. Aerobics
16. To put on (a piece of clothing)
17. Hurts
18. USAF pioneer Gen. Nathan ____; first AF CJCS
20. Type of psych test
22. Obtained
23. The soybean
24. Army police officers, in short
27. Blob
29. Describing a roughly bounded part of the space on a surface
33. Dine
34. Excuse
37. Drum
38. Accountant, in short
39. ____ an engine
40. Make an offer
41. Bay of Naples isle
44. Foe
47. First lady
48. Social outcast
49. Identify maiden name
50. Lair
51. Collegiate athletics governing body
54. Mil. pay during PCS
56. USAF pioneer Gen. ____ Schriever; AF "father of space/missiles"
59. USAF pioneer Harold ____; 3rd SECAF
63. Ontario neighbor
64. Chaplin movie ____ *Strange Predicament* (1914)
66. Actress Falco of *The*

Sopranos

67. Canter
68. Bridges
69. Dial or touch
70. Concord plane, in short
71. Explosive combo
72. Dashed

Down

1. AF pioneer Gen. ____ Vandenberg; 2nd CSAF
2. Declare
3. Warlock
4. *The ____ Show*
5. Conjunction
6. USAF hero Maj. ____ Seville; 1st USAF MoH recipient
7. USAF pioneer Capt. Lillian Kinkel ____; flight nurse / decorated vet
8. Scandinavian capital
9. Helper, in short
11. Singer k.d.
12. Type of records
13. Nevada town
14. USAF hero Lt Col James ____; first jet ace
19. Midwestern state
21. Burmese currency

24. Islamic holy site
25. Dads
26. USAF Pioneer Col. John ____; G-forces scientist
28. Ominous
30. Dwindled
31. Existing
32. Weighed down with a load
35. ____ Nevis; highest mountain of Great Britain
36. USAF pioneer Capt. ____ Kincheloe; America's "first spaceman"
42. Milk curdling
43. Ancient Peruvian empire
45. Achievement, Commendation, Good Conduct, etc.
46. Scream
52. Coat-of-____
53. Fit in
55. Assist
56. Wagers
57. Mistakes
58. Mob rule
59. Camping need
60. Smell
61. Singer Turner
62. Youth
65. Prohibit

Environmental assessment

The Final Environmental Assessment for the Improvements and Repair to Forty-Niner Avenue is available for review at the Holloman Public Library. The Environmental Assessment resulted in a Finding of No Significant Impact and a Finding of No Practicable Alternative. All comments should be directed to the Public Affairs Office; 49FW/PA, 490 First St. Suite 2800, Holloman AFB, NM 88330; Phone: 505-572-5406.

Holloman dental sick call

The 49th Aeromedical Dental Squadron Dental Clinic, not the emergency room, is the place to go for emergency dental care. After hours, beneficiaries can call 572-3260 to speak to an on-call dentist at the dental clinic. While the clinic cannot provide routine, comprehensive dental care for family members, it can provide urgent dental care. Dentists are on call 24/7 for urgent care of military beneficiaries.

Additionally, by calling the Dental Clinic at 572-3742 between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, both active duty members and military beneficiaries can schedule a dental sick call appointment.

Family members enrolled in the Tricare Dental Plan should arrange to see their civilian dentists for all dental needs, including urgent care.

Pie in the face

Voting for the Pie in the Face fundraiser has started and runs through Aug. 26. Votes cost \$0.25 each and are made available by unit 1st sergeants. Anyone is fair game for nomination, including squadron, group and wing commanders, chiefs, 1st sergeants and “mean” supervisors. The top two nominees will get a pie in the face at 11 a.m., Aug. 30 at the fitness center.

The pie-throwing slots will be auctioned off to the highest bidders. Nominees can opt to buy themselves out of getting a pie in the face by doubling the winning bid, but the winning bidder

can double the bid again and reverse it back to the nominee.

All proceeds will go to support the Air Force Ball, Sept. 17.

Blue to Green program

Airmen close to earning an honorable discharge from the Air Force who want to keep their military benefits may qualify for an interservice transfer under the Army’s Operation Blue to Green.

The Blue to Green program allows Airmen to apply the military experience they have gained to service in the Army and can become Soldiers in career fields comparable to current Air Force jobs, or retrain in a different Military Occupational Specialty, depending on qualifications and available training. Airmen may qualify for an enlistment bonus if they transfer into a critical Army MOS.

For more information, contact Steven Foreman, U.S. Army Blue to Green recruiter, at (206)246-5763 or (206)793-7707, toll-free at (877)248-7364, or send an email to: *steven.foreman@usarec.army.mil*.

Fire protection engineering guide

To help high school and college students with career choices, the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, based in Bethesda, Md., has created a new Guide to Careers in Fire Protection Engineering. The guide provides students the opportunity to explore college degree programs, specific career paths and different ways to enter—and succeed—in the field.

Fire protection engineering is a fast-growing occupation. Year after year, the demand for qualified fire protection engineers outpaces the supply.

Get your Guide to Careers in Fire Protection Engineering by contacting Chris Jelenewicz at 301-718-2910 or send an email to *chris@sfpe.org*. More information about a career in fire protection engineering can be found at *www.careersinfire-protectionengineering.com*.

Free NMSU-A business training

A free training course is being offered by the Small Business Development Center at NMSU-A for those interested in starting their own business. The courses will include writing business plans. The course counts for college credit and costs nothing for all active duty members, veterans with educational benefits, and most reservists and National Guard troops. The classes are 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday. Those interested can contact the Small Business Development Center, 572-7754.

BAH waivers

Team Holloman members may apply for BAH waivers based on the following conditions:

A: Low-cost or no-cost PCS as designated on member's orders: in this case, the member can request the previous duty station BAH rate if it is higher than the new duty station. This is the only waiver applicable to members without dependents.

B: Dependent restricted tours: the default rate is the dependent location. If the member's duty station has a higher BAH rate, the member may request a waiver.

C: PME: Members who leave their families to attend PME may apply for a waiver based on de-

pendent location or a previous duty station. Members must be attending a course 20 weeks or more and less than one year. Military couples are not eligible unless they have a child. Single members are not eligible.

Anyone requesting a waiver can submit a request in writing and include a copy of PCS orders. AFPC/DPFFOC will only accept requests from MAJCOMS, all requests will require AF/DPDF approval/disapproval. Any questions can be answered by AFPC/DPFFOC at DSN 665-3415.

Albuquerque Tricentennial

As part of the Albuquerque Tricentennial celebration, August is Agricultural and Culinary Arts Month. Events include wine and cheese seminars, chefs' auctions, barbeques and winemaker dinners. September is Architecture Month.

For more information on Albuquerque's Tricentennial, visit the Web site at www.albuquerque300.org.

Mixed bowling league

The Friday Night Mixed League at Holloman's Desert Lanes Bowling Center begins its fall season this September. Each team consists of two men and two women, three games per night,

Handicap League. The bowling center will provide teammates if needed. There will be payouts for all bowlers at the end of the season. The cost is \$9 to \$10 per person, per night. Shoes are \$1.25. The league is open to all active duty, retirees, dependents and U.S. government employees working at Holloman and their spouses. Bowlers must be at least 18 years of age.

For more information, contact Ms. Kara M. Noya at 572-1916, or sign up at the bowling alley.

Prometric Testing

As of Sept. 2, the Base Education Office will no longer offer Prometric Testing. However, the University of Phoenix, Holloman Campus, will begin offering the same type of examinations via Pearson VUE testing. If you prefer to use a Prometric Test Center, there are three locations in El Paso and one location in Las Cruces. The exact locations can be determined by going to the Prometric Web site at www.prometric.com. For more information, contact the Education Services Officer, Mr. Ken Derenzy, at 572-7027 or University of Phoenix, Holloman Campus, at 479-4856. Note that DANTES, PME, CDC and distance learning testing will not be affected by this change.

Families Apart

The Alamogordo Daily News is sponsoring an evening zoo event Saturday for families of members who are deployed, remote or on an extended TDY assignment from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Alamogordo Zoo. Join them for refreshments, entertainment, and fun. Call the Family Support Center at 572-7754 to make reservations.

Middle Two meeting

There is a Middle Two meeting at 3 p.m., the third Tuesday of every month at the enlisted club.

Online visitor passes

Holloman members can now request visitor passes via the internet at the Web site sfmis.csd.disa.mil/SFMIS5/DoD.html. Visitor information can be filled out before going to Pass and ID. When arriving at Pass and ID, inform the clerk about the Web request and the clerk will verify the information and issue a pass. The request can be submitted 30 days in advance. For more information, call Pass and ID at 572-5951 or 572-5920.

UFT selection board

The undergraduate flying training selection board will convene at the Air Force Personnel Center Jan. 10, 2006.

This board will review active duty applications for selection to pilot, navigator or air battle manager training. Those officers with a date of birth after April 1, 1976 and a TFCSD after April 1 2001, who meet all other eligibility criteria, will be eligible to apply for UFT. Applicants must send the completed application, postmarked by Nov. 23, to HQ AFPC/DPAOT 3, 550 C St. West, Suite 31, Randolph AFB, Texas, 78150-4733. Applicants must advise commanders/supervisors providing AF IMT 215 comments of the application deadline. Applications with incomplete or missing data may not be processed. All applicants must complete the Air Force Officer Qualification Test. Pilot applicants must complete the Basic Attributes Test. For details on application procedures, see AFI 36-2205 or contact the base formal training element at 572-3288.

First term Airmen

There will be a first-term Airman informed decision briefing at 7:50 a.m., Thursday at the Professional Development Center, building 451. This briefing is mandatory for all first-term Airmen within 15 months or less of separating from the Air Force.



Airman 1st Class Mehtar Sullivan 49th Civil Engineer Readiness Flight

Duty Title: Readiness Journeyman, Logistics

Time in service: 17 months

Time at Holloman: 15 months

Hometown: Washington, D.C.

Personal and career goals: To obtain a Bachelor's Degree and get commissioned as an officer.

Why is serving in the Air Force important to you?

It is important to me because I am doing what I feel is necessary to protect my family and friends and help other Airmen protect their family and friends as well.

How do you set an example for other troops? By taking initiative. This shows other young Airmen that taking initiative improves confidence and that confidence improves performance. Improved performance improves your chances for success.

What is the highlight of your Holloman tour?

Participating in the Bataan Memorial Death March earlier this year. It is a 26.2-mile trek around White Sands Missile Range that tests your mental and physical abilities while honoring those who suffered tremendously during WWII. Even though my team didn't finish, I was proud to have marched by their side and am glad that I have the chance to work with them in the Air Force.

Core value portrayed: Airman Sullivan embodies "Excellence in all we do." He thoroughly plans his work and takes the initiative to get it done. His professionalism and focus ensures that it gets done right the first time.

*- Maj. Andra B. Clapsaddle
49th CES Commander*



Photoby Tech. Sgt. Ray Bowden

Airman 1st Class Mehtar Sullivan quizzes a student on the Airman's Manual during Tuesday's chemical warfare training at the CES compound.

Middle 2 binds top 3, bottom 4

by 2nd Lt. Shantece Wade
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Acquiring supervisor duties is a big step in the enlisted corps. You're not exactly "top dog," but you're definitely not bottom. You might not be a senior NCO, or an Airman, either, so you might think that you may not have the chance to voice your concerns and be heard. So, where do you fit in? Right in the middle.

Technical sergeants, staff sergeants, and staff sergeant selects make up the Middle Two Council, which serves as an open forum to address any concerns unique to staff and technical sergeants as a self-mentoring group, said Tech. Sgt. Reny R. Nunag, Middle Two president.

The Middle Two provides open discussions and free exchanges of ideas in order to help foster camaraderie and help unite and focus the efforts of the NCO corps in the best interests of the Air Force and the Holloman community, he said.

"Having a voice to express our ideas and to network outside of squadron and group organizations with other staff and technical sergeants is a huge

benefit to the NCO corps," said Tech. Sgt. Kelley Hill, Middle Two member. "Also, individually, one may have limited opportunity to propose ideas or express concerns to the wing commander and command chief. The Middle Two gives us that forum."

The Middle Two was also established to promote the morale, discipline, welfare, esprit de corps, recreation and general well being for all enlisted personnel assigned to Holloman, Sergeant Nunag said.

Overlooked at times, the Middle Two acts as eyes and ears for the enlisted; they communicate and look out for the needs of the troops, he said.

"Without great, sharp, committed and dedicated NCOs from the Middle Two, who will the Airmen have to look up to and learn from," said Staff Sgt. Jessica L. Alfke, Middle Two secretary.

Dedicated to shaping the sharpest NCOs, the Middle Two extends outward and works in close cooperation with the Top Three, First Sergeants, Airmen's Advisory and Chief's councils in order to facilitate upward and downward communication.

"As a Middle Two member

we're not too far detached from the Airmen or Senior NCOs and this position helps with relating to trivial issues," Sergeant Hill said. "Establishing open dialogue with the lower tier of the enlisted force gave me an eye opening awareness of what younger airman are experiencing and their state of mind."

As a mentoring tool, the Middle Two fosters great learning opportunities that NCOs can benefit from.

"It allows me to grow and take responsibility for my actions," Sergeant Nunag said. "I feel that I am a mentor for our young Airmen and it helps me hone skills that I would never have a chance to work on if I was not a part of the Middle Two."

The Middle Two members take part and are highly involved in a myriad of community services on and off base, such as Meals on Wheels, Crossing Guards, Adopt-A-Highway, Soup Kitchen and Airman Professional Enhancement Course. Members are not limited to those programs and try to participate in anything that comes their way.

"Like it or not, the Middle Two will be the future leaders of our Air Force," said Sergeant Nunag. "Being in the Middle Two will help them grow as a supervisor and as a person, which we will need to lead the greatest Air Force in the world."

All 1,400-plus technical sergeants, staff sergeants and staff sergeant selects are invited to attend the monthly Middle Two meeting at 3 p.m. every third Thursday at the Oasis Enlisted Club.

For more information concerning the Middle Two, contact Staff Sgt. Phillip H. Saunders at 572-7217.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ray Bowden

Staff Sgt. Scott Moskowitz (left), a part-time disc jockey who spun tunes at the Middle Two picnic Aug. 12 at Thrasher Park discusses the music selection with Staff Sergeants Melissa Shroka and John Killman.

Inspection

Continued from Page 1

with regulations,” said Ms. Misener.

“Even the school menus are rated,” she said.

Inspectors also appraised fire prevention measures, office and classroom environments, the youth and teen cen-

ter, parent participation and child abuse protection services.

After a week of intense

scrutiny, the Holloman Family Services programs received an outstanding overall rating: inspectors graded the family child care center at 96 percent and the Child Development Center and school age programs both received scores of 90 percent.

Ms. Misener chalks the success up to the diligence and hard work of the family services staff.

“Every staff member does the best job they can,” she said. “They’re very dedicated to the goal of providing a safe, nurturing environment for the children.”

Lt. Col. Carleton Hirschel, 49th Services Squadron commander, called the results “stellar” and said he had no doubt the inspection would go well.

“This score comes as no surprise,” he said. “We’ve known we’re the cream of the crop for a while and this type of excellence extends to all 49th services programs.”

According to Department of Defense Family Policy instruction, a low score will result in a re-inspection, which usually occurs within 60 to 90 days of the original inspection.

If the inspectors find certain major discrepancies, the facilities could be closed, said Ms. Misener.

This is Ms. Misener’s third family services inspection as flight chief and she says she is confident they will continue to exceed standards.

“We’ve made great improvement over the last several years and our scores continue to go up,” she said.

According to Colonel Hirschel, the parents are not the only ones benefiting from Holloman’s top-notch family services programs.

Team Holloman’s family services provide children with an atmosphere that fosters learning and growth in a safe, healthy environment promoting cognitive, social, physical and emotional development, he said.

Out at the Ammo yard

Maintenance Squadron takes on meticulous task of maintaining bombs



Photos by Senior Airman Jason Colbert

Staff Sgt. Colman Martin, 49th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, detaches bomb fin lanyards from cluster bombs at Holloman's Ammo yard Tuesday.



Right to left: Airman 1st Class Michelle Sayco, 49th Maintenance Squadron munitions crewmember, uses an MJ-1 bomb lift to lift a cluster bomb while Airman 1st Class Vanessa Overturff and Senior Airman Matthew Malinowsky keep it stable.



Senior Airman Matthew Davis, 49th Maintenance Squadron munitions inspector, inspects egress assets at Holloman's Ammo yard Tuesday.

Martian techs keep stealths invisible

by **Spc. (Ret.) James Matise**
Sunburst staff writer

One of the best-kept secrets on Holloman AFB is how the F-117A Nighthawk is able to drop out of the night sky and strike highly-defended enemy targets as if it deployed a cloaking device.

The Martians do it.

Of course, these Martians aren't visitors from another planet. They're the 100 Airmen assigned to the Aircraft Structural Maintenance flight.

"We make sure the aircraft cannot be detected," said Staff Sgt. Eric Brennan, aircraft structural maintenance technician.

The largest driving force in the ASM is the Material Application Repair Section. The acronym for the section, MARS, is where the term "Martian" comes from. The MARS personnel maintain the delicate radar-absorbing material that covers the stealth fighter and helps it stay undetected by the enemy.

The stealth fighter's radar-defeating system utilizes both the aircraft's shape to deflect radar and the material coating the fighter to absorb radar, said Staff Sgt. Kevin Borrow, a night shift supervisor.

"As long as the system is working correctly, the radar is dispersed throughout the air-

frame," he said.

The Martians have to make sure a 65-foot-long aircraft appears on enemy radar as a small bird or large insect. The trick to maintaining the stealth's radar invisibility is to constantly make sure the radar-absorbing material is properly applied and replaced.

"Some of the replacements come from the material getting old ... but by and large, it's due to maintenance," said Sergeant Brennan. "Any time they perform maintenance, they have to remove panels and they have to remove the coating."

Taking off material and putting it back on seems simple enough, but each metal surface of the aircraft has to be properly primed, the material has to be precisely placed and every gap has to be filled with a special putty — and no spots can be missed. Between maintenance and unexpected damage, keeping the stealth fighter stealthy is a round-the-clock job.

"Everything from lightning strikes, bird strikes, hailstorms — even the sun can damage the [radar-absorbent material]," Sergeant Brennan said. "It's durable, but it's the same as wearing a black shirt in the sun. You're going to get hot."

The Martians are also responsible for manufacturing many parts of the fighter as they

need to be replaced.

"The sheet metal [repair] includes everything on the aircraft — repairing cracks, hydraulics tubing, and fiberglass panels," Sergeant Borrow said. "It keeps us quite busy."

The Martians provide assessments on each aircraft every 14 days and document anything they come across that might need to be fixed. They can patch fiberglass, make new tubing and manufacture some parts entirely from scratch, sometimes even making the tool required to make the replacement part.

"This shop is truly one of the last craftsmen shops left in the Air Force," said Master Sgt. Vernon Isbel, ASM shop chief. "They take metal and turn it into something that flies."

Once a year, each stealth fighter gets a new coat of black paint, further improving its stealth capabilities, preventing corrosion and improving its appearance.

"It's a week-long process, from sanding to priming to painting," said Staff Sgt. Armond Cornin, structural paints supervisor. "It takes about nine gallons to paint the aircraft."

Everything, including the tail number, unit identification and safety signs, is sprayed directly on the jet; no decals are used. Two different types of paint are used, one for the body of the aircraft and another for the tail, Sergeant Cornin said.

"The tails are painted with a silicone paint system that has to be painted separately. The rest is painted with polyurethane," he said. "The silicone keeps it from getting too hot [from exhaust]."

When all of the Martians' work comes together, the aircraft is put to the test by Air Force radar before it is exposed to enemy radar. At least once a year, and before and after any unscheduled maintenance, each aircraft is taken to the section's diagnostic imaging radar pad so the Martians can see the radar cross section exhibited by the aircraft and make any necessary



Photos by Spc. (Ret.) James Matise

Airmen 1st Class John Miller, MARS technician, tapes off radar-absorbent material on an F-117A Nighthawk prior to filling a gap between RAM with putty. MARS technicians ensure RAM is applied properly and is in good condition.

repairs. The radar takes approximately 100 images from different angles, and the smallest nick or protrusion, or not enough putty used between gaps in material, or any of a number of things that may not even be visible to the naked eye, can be detected by the radar.

"When you make a mistake and [the aircraft] goes down there, suddenly it's very obvious," Sergeant Cornin said.

When Sergeant Cornin first arrived at Holloman, he accidentally left a small amount of raw material on the rudder, and it was instantly detected by the radar.

"It's like you put a refrigerator on top of the plane," he said.

Martian maintenance is challenging, tedious and unending. Shifts work at all hours of the day and night, every day of the year, wherever the stealth fighter

ers are stationed.

"These guys are the only guys who work 24 hours, around the clock, to keep the aircraft in the air," Sergeant Isbel said. "Nobody works harder."

The hard, often unrecognized work, the Martians agree, has its own reward. When the pilots take the Nighthawks on attack missions, alone, against targets protected by an armada of aircraft-killing materiel, unable to escape or fire back at sudden threats, Martian know-how is what makes the difference between a successful mission and a downed aircraft.

"When the jets come down and they came back successful, with no bullet holes, we know we did the right thing," said Staff Sgt. Mark Lundervold, weekend shift supervisor. "We're the ones that make the plane invisible."



Senior Airman Arnold Carpio, MARS technician, scrapes old adhesive off the underside of an F-117A Nighthawk prior to laying down new radar-absorbent material.

UAV's history begins with Holloman's past, continues to transform 21st century Air Force

by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force continues to transform into a 21st century force, capable of adapting to new and changing enemy threats.

One of these adaptations is the increased use of unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAVs. Those who look toward the future of these technologically-advanced aircraft must remember the past as well.

Long before the F-117A Nighthawk or the 49th Fighter Wing (then referred to as the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing) arrived at Holloman AFB, there were other unique missions here. These included the Holloman High-Speed Test Track, Air Force Research Laboratory for high-altitude balloon testing and UAV testing.

At first glance, America's early unmanned aerial vehicle program consisted of confiscated German V-1 and V-2 rockets. Only a few short years before, these then-secret weapons were launched against Great Britain during World War II.

Once initial testing of these rockets was completed at Alamogordo Army Air Field, renamed Holloman AFB in 1948, the installation entered the world of UAVs.

Holloman's involvement began with the OQ-19D radio-remote controlled flyer, first launched in 1947. Built by the Radioplane division of Northrop Aircraft Company, the OQ-19 was used to train anti-aircraft gunner crews to shoot down enemy aircraft from the ground. This testing would continue into 1956.

At the same time, the Ryan Aeronautical Company was awarded a contract to build the Q-2 Firebee drone, a high-speed, surface-to-air and air-to-air missile. The Firebee was used primarily for testing newly developed missiles and for fighter-interceptor pilot training. It was capable of being launched from an airplane or from the ground.

As the Cold War tensions flared between the U.S. and the former Soviet Union, Holloman's mission was changing as well. The U.S. saw the need for further tactical missile development,



Courtesy photo

Two QF-106 drones, assigned to Detachment 1, 82nd Aerial Targets Squadron, fly over the White Sands Missile Range during the mid-1990s. The unit, based at Holloman, tests advances in UAV technology to support its radio-controlled aircraft.

assigning the first-ever cruise missile system to the then-small Air Force Systems Command installation.

The first Matador cruise missile launched in the Tularosa Basin in January 1949. Eventually, the Matador became the first missile to enter Air Force service and the first to carry tactical nuclear warheads. The Matador continued tests at Holloman until December 1961.

More than 30 years would pass until Holloman was home once more to a dedicated UAV mission. This time, instead of testing new types of UAV aircraft, it would be one unit's mission to help shoot them out of the New Mexico sky.

In July 1981, Detachment 1 of the 82nd Aerial Targets Squadron began operations with the Air Force's inventory of outdated F-102 Delta Dagger.

These interceptor aircraft were given a "Q" designation and used for flight testing and as aerial targets for air-to-air missile firing.

In 1986, the squadron did away with 1950s-era interceptors and moved toward the larger, faster QF-106 Delta Dart. The "Dart" flew with the 82nd ATRS until 1997, when they converted to their current aircraft, the McDonnell Douglas QF-4 Phantom.

Currently, the aerial targets squadron makes use of 17 manned and unmanned Vietnam-era aircraft. According to Maj. John Markle, director of operations of the drone detachment, the unit has no plans of ending its mission any time soon.

"The Detachment has added many secondary missions over the past several years, including a weapons systems evaluation program," Major Markle

said. "We also support the Japanese Self Defense Forces in an annual air defense exercise at Ft. Bliss, Texas, and we participate in the USAF Heritage Flight program with Vietnam-era paint schemes."

Currently, Creech Air Force Base, Nev., is home to the "center of excellence" for UAV aircraft. There, airframes ranging in different sizes and shapes, from the Predator small reconnaissance drone to the large, loitering Global Hawk, are tested and deployed accordingly.

UAVs have been an ongoing mission to Holloman since the base's inception. With the Air Force pushing for more advanced unmanned aircraft, a look at the past shows that Holloman is no stranger to the operation of UAVs and the challenge it presents in the world today.

49th MDG gets new med flight commander



Photo illustration by Tech. Sgt. Ray Bowden

Major Christine Hall is the new Aerospace Medicine Flight commander. Her last assignment was at Cannon AFB, N.M., and she arrived at Holloman AFB two months ago.

The *Sunburst* took the recent opportunity to ask Major Hall a few questions.

Education and medical experience:

- University of Colorado Medical School graduate, Denver.
- Family practice doctor by training
- Family practice residency completed in Greeley, Colo.

What is your professional goal while stationed at Holloman? To continuously improve the flight medicine process and work towards making the Holloman Flight Medicine section the tightest, most professional flight possible. Basically, I'm going to strive to improve upon the 49th Medical Group's past successes and continue to keep our flyers and their families healthy.

What are your duties? Administering to the flyers and their families.

This includes our pilots here, their families, air traffic controllers here and space operations people assigned here who happen to be on flight status. Essentially, flight medicine is for flyers and their families.

What is your first impression of the installation? I'm thrilled to be here.

Most everyone I come in contact with during the course of my duties seems extremely happy to be here. Holloman has a tremendous core of strong leaders, which greatly adds to the high level of morale here.

Commander's comments: Dr. Hall is a welcome addition to the medical staff of the 49th Medical Group and the 49th Aeromedical Dental Squadron.

An experienced flight surgeon and a board certified family practice physician, she brings a wealth of experience to Holloman and has already shown us better ways to provide care to our patient population. I'm extremely happy we were able to bring her to Holloman.

– Col. Matt Adkins, 49th Medical Group commander

Time to hit the road again! Back to school bus safety

by Airman 1st Class Daniel Dymond
49th Maintenance Squadron

As summer comes to its predictable end, certain inevitabilities occur; the days get shorter, the heat subsides and once again it’s time for school to begin. Since the school year is fast upon us, it is always wise to consider back to school safety in order to keep our children alive and well.

According to National Safety Council statistics, 22 million children begin and end their school day with a ride on the school bus.

Last year, according to NSC statistics, approximately 26 students were killed and another 9,000 injured in school bus related incidents.

No one was killed or injured at Holloman during that time.

Most of these tragic incidents did not

involve “crashes” but rather the accidents occurred when the students were entering and exiting the school bus.

The National Safety Council advocates the following safety tips for school children to follow.

- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from traffic and the street. This could be a bench, or simply an area far away from the street and possible traffic.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- When being dropped off, exit the bus and walk at least ten steps away. Keep a safe distance between you and the bus.
- Ensure you drop your children on the right side of the street away from moving school vehicles and buses.
- Use the handrail to enter and exit

the bus.

- Be aware of the street traffic around you. Drivers are required to follow certain rules of the road concerning school buses, however, not all do. Protect yourself and watch out!

Buses are not the only means of transportation children take to school. Riding bikes and walking can also be dangerous. Remember these tips when providing self transportation:

- Obey all traffic signals and/or the crossing guard — never cross the street when the “Don’t Walk” signal or red light is flashing, even if you don’t see any traffic coming.
- Walk your bike through intersections with marked crosswalks.
- Walk with a buddy.
- Wear reflective material especially at night. It makes you more visible to street traffic.

- Make sure you wear a bicycle helmet that meets the required safety standards.

- Instruct your children to ride their bicycles in the same direction as the roadway traffic.

There are many more things to think about when talking about safety with your child.

Use the common sense approach. Sit down with your child and talk to them about these safety tips and any other safety practices that may help.

If you need some more ideas, there are many good websites and the 49th Fighter Wing Safety Office to gather information from.

Let’s all work towards having a fun, safe school year as opposed to a tragic one.

Refer to *www.nsc.org* for further safety guidance and statistics.



Congratulations to the following Fightin’ 49ers who received supplemental promotions in August:

To Staff Sgt.:

Sean H. Rabourn

49th Civil Engineer Squadron

William J. Atherton

49th Materiel Maintenance Squadron

Jesse P. Bernal

49th Maintenance Squadron

To Tech. Sgt.

Scott A. Baker

49th Civil Engineer Squadron

Wesley A. Seale

49th Fighter Wing

Kevin R. Kay

Jose J. Delval

Travis R. Henderson

49th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Jose A. Nevarez

49th Medical Support Squadron

Scott Ballerstein

49th Materiel Maintenance Group

Joel E. Rybarczyk

49th Operations Support Squadron

Jason M. Krivda

49th Services Squadron

To Master Sgt.

Thomas M. Woods

49th Communications Squadron

Michelle M. Palmer

49th Contracting Squadron

Darren M. Dunham

49th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Rickie L. Gress

49th Maintenance Group

Joseph Campanelli

49th Operations Support Squadron

Congratulations to these outstanding NCOs!

**Chapel
Services**

Weekday Masses – 11:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Sunday – Catholic Mass, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

- Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.
- General Protestant Worship Service, 11 a.m.

• Protestant Sunday School is 9:30 a.m. and Catholic Religious Education is 10:30 a.m., Sunday at Holloman Intermediate School.

B On the
IG SCREEN

The Island (PG-13)

6 p.m., today

The Fantastic Four (PG-13)

6 p.m., Saturday

High Treason (R)

6 p.m., Sunday

Base namesake led way to modern UAV

1930s developments still give AF the ‘combat edge’

by Master Sgt. Greg Henneman
49th Fighter Wing historian

Since aerial combat opened a new front in modern warfare over the trenches of France in the First World War, strategists have sought ways to exploit power from the air without risking the life in the cockpit.

Some attempts at remotely controlled aircraft have bordered on the strange and dangerous. In World War II, the United States Army Air Forces used explosive-laden B-17 bombers in a program known as Aphrodite. In this project, a pilot and an enlisted autopilot technician would take-off with the B-17, get the aircraft to altitude and then parachute out of the navigator’s escape hatch as the bomber was controlled by another aircraft. This project not only proved dangerous, but never hit any of its intended targets, and was abandoned.

However, one of the earliest and most serious ventures into what is known today as unmanned aerial vehicle technology, was led by Colonel George V. Holloman—the namesake of Holloman Air Force Base.

After over a decade of developing remotely controlled techniques initially with cars and then with small-scale model airplanes, Capt. George Holloman, at the time, gained notoriety in 1937 for flight testing the world’s first full-scale airplane equipped with an automatic landing device.



Courtesy photo

Capt. Holloman experiments with an RP-4 model airplane, leading to his historic 1937 flight.

On Aug. 23, 1937, Holloman’s modified Fokker C-14B took off from Wright Field and after its automatic equipment was switched on, it turned toward Patterson Field several miles away, gradually descended, and landed by using a ground radio system consisting of five transmitting beacons.

Conducted on an extremely tight budget, the project only succeeded because of Captain Holloman’s persistence in adapting old equipment no longer needed for other projects.

The project report from these experiments explained further tests: “This was one step in the perfection of automatic landing. The features that are built into the automatic landing

system are not only useful for the landing, but are used throughout the entire flight. Test airplanes from Wright Field have been flown automatically from Wright Field as far as Texas and return under automatic control. Several flights have been made to Buffalo, Newark, thence to Langley Field, Va., and return to Wright Field. Obviously the automatic landing involves other factors besides control of direction. These factors are control of altitude, engine control, glide control and further engine control after landing.”

For his efforts, Captain Holloman received the 1937 Mackay Trophy for the most meritorious flight of the year. Additionally, Gen. Henry “Hap” Arnold

personally pinned a distinguished flying cross on Holloman on Aug. 2, 1939 during an Army Air Corps anniversary party at Wright Field.

Col. Holloman died in a B-17 accident on Formosa, now known as Taiwan in 1946. A year later, Alamogordo Army Air Field was renamed Holloman Air Force Base in his honor.

Greater than any medal or recognition, Col. Holloman made invaluable and selfless contributions in the research and development of pilotless aircraft, the first steps in what have become an important weapon in today’s global war on terrorism—unmanned aerial vehicles.



Courtesy photo

Col. Holloman’s official 1942 photo.

In the fire house



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

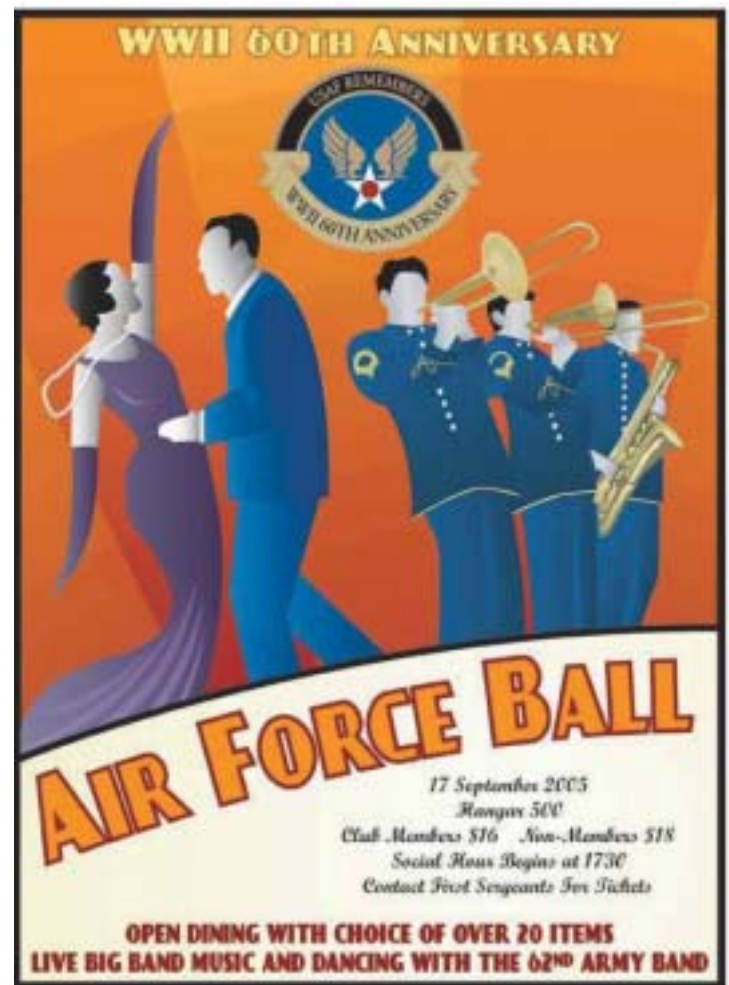
Airman 1st Class Nathan Darke, 49th Civil Engineer Squadron fire and emergency services responder, meets Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) at the main fire station Wednesday. The senator met with fire and wing officials to discuss funding of a state-of-the-art fire station that is expected to replace the current 1950s-era station.

Crossword answers



Answers from page 6

COMING EVENTS



Oktoberfest event schedule

Date: Sept. 24

Time: 3:30-11:30 pm

The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$12 a person. Tickets are available at the following locations:

- Officer and Enlisted Club
- Outdoor Recreation Center
- Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce
- White Sands Mall
- All branches of Otero Federal Credit Union

Tickets go on sale Thursday. For more information call 572-2612 or 572-6159.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

German Air Force technician squadron midfielder Oliver Brungs kicks past GAF electronics squadron defense midfielder Ronny Steinhart Thursday. The GAF technician squadron beat out the electronics squadron 2-1.

Soccer Standings

Team	Won	Lost	Tie	Pc	Streak	PF	PA
GAF 2nd MXS	1	0	0	1.000	Won 1	10	0
GAF 1st MXS Soccer	1	0	0	1.000	Won 1	4	2
49 MMG Soccer	1	0	0	1.000	Won 1	3	1
GAF Tech Soccer	1	0	0	1.000	Won 1	2	1
49 OSS Soccer	1	1	0	.500	Lost 1	4	3
49 CS Soccer	0	1	0	.000	Lost 1	2	4
GAF ELO SQ	0	1	0	.000	Lost 1	1	2
46 TG Soccer	0	0	0	.000	-	0	0
49 CES Soccer	0	1	0	.000	Lost 1	0	3
49 MDG Soccer	0	1	0	.000	Lost 1	0	10

